

Order, a plan to place a \$30,000 Music Hall in the proposed Temple, was favorably considered. All our readers are acquainted with the several stages through which this project lived, and know that on account of a diffidence in subscribers for stock, the hall portion was at last abandoned. The Craft, while very anxious to meet the wishes of the citizens, felt that their having taken stock to the amount of about \$40,000 was, in itself, as much as they could well afford and, therefore accepted the verdict of the people and let the Music Hall go. New plans and new specifications were got out, Mr. Leith, was empowered to go on, and it was not long before the contracts for building were let. Only a few weeks ago the ground was broken for the foundation, but the Messrs. Webber pushed the work on so rapidly, that the Directors of the Masonic Hall Association, with W. Bro. Hugh Murray as President, completed their arrangements for the due laying of the corner stone on the Dominion Day of this year. Invitations were written with a generous hand, and brethren in Canada and elsewhere were assured of a hearty welcome should they come. Arrangements were made for lowered fares on the Great Western Railway, and *carte blanche* given those who had the celebration in hand to accomplish it to the honor of the craft and all concerned. The dimensions of the Hall are :

81 feet 6 inches on James street; 100 feet 6 inches on Gore street; height of building from sidewalk to cornice, 56 feet; total height from cellar to dock roof 78 feet. The style is Romanesque, and the structure will be finished in September, 1864. On the ground floor there will be four stores on James street, and one on Gore street, 14 feet in height; two stores will be 19 feet 6 inches wide and 90 feet long; the others will be 13 feet wide and 60 feet long; the one on Gore street will be 22 feet wide and 64 feet long; on the 2nd floor will be a Masonic Hall 64x34; Encampment, Priory, &c., 27x31 with their several ante and preparation rooms; reception room 23x14; wash rooms, water closet, &c.; committee and fuel rooms, offices for the Grand Secretary; fire proof vaults and hoist room. On the 3rd flat will be the Royal Arch Chapter Room, 23x38; Excellent and Super-Excellent Degrees Room, 11x28; A. and A. Rite occupies half of this story, comprising a space of 77x45. Banqueting room, 17x31; general reception room, 16x26. The flat on this story is also furnished with fuel rooms, hoist rooms, water closet and fire-proof vault.

The foundation walls were hurried forward consistent with prudence and the tops planked level with the street, in order to form a platform for the brethren. A few feet east of the place a substantial stand was erected for ladies, who were admitted by ticket. Between the two was a small stand for the use of the Grand Lodge, which was thus placed near and above the corner stone. The lower portion of the stone lay impeded in the wall, with the top surface on a level with the street. The upper one was huge and massive, and, besides being ornamental in its dressing, bears the inscription, which may be read from the street:

MASONIC HALL,
The Corner Stone was laid with
Masonic Ceremonies,
July 1st, 1873: A. L. 6873.
Wm. Leith, Architect.

This stone may be seen at the north easterly corner of the building. The cap stone hung several feet above the other, and was suspended